



City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities
155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

Monthly Meeting Agenda – March 11, 2014 - 6:30pm

John Gentile (Chairman), Rose Marie Bouciler, Annie Dance, Paul Kachevsky, Joanne LaPorta, William Lewis, John Neumuller, Bobby Perez, Frances Ryan, Chad Sinanian

- Welcome & Introduction: John Gentile
 - Guests: Jonathan Slifka – Governor’s Liaison to the disAbility Community; John Schroeder - has expressed an interest in joining the Commission
- Review & Accept Minutes: February 11, 2014
- Phone Log: John Gentile
- E-newsletter - Annie Dance
 - reimbursement request submitted for January and February
 - Last e-newsletter sent on 3/3/2014 - People First - Some disabilities may be hidden or not easy to see - for statistics & organizations that opened it please see addendum next e-newsletter - **March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** and The Arc invites you/everyone to join them on March 29 in a grassroots initiative to help raise awareness about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
 - Annie to contact PJ to get quote from Mayor & perhaps proclamation (see sample proclamation on <http://publicimagesnetwork.org/mediakit.htm#Proclamation>)
 - Does anyone know of any local organizations or events being held in Danbury for DDmonth?
- Social media report as of 3/10/14
 - Facebook: currently 21 likes (up from 20 in Feb., Jan. was the same as Feb.)
 - Twitter: currently 143 followers (up from 131 in Feb., and 110 in Jan.)
- 2013 -2014 Recognition Award update
 - Housatonic Area Rapid Transportation (HART) Reached out to HART
 - John Gentile has spoken with Rick, contacted Eric (CEO) at HART regarding next steps.
- On Demand Transportation: (kept as an open item)
- Danbury Buddy Ball Program (training program for children): Update - Frank Reed
 - Will keep as an open item on agenda for future meetings
- March of Dimes walk on May 4 - Frank Reed will be the Ambassador for the event
 - Frank to send Annie details - we will send a press advisory a week before the event
 - will keep as open item on the agenda and promote the event closer to the date
- Open Discussion
 - Annie received email from the Director of U.S. International Council on Disabilities (USICD) for the Commission to become a member - \$300/yr. for an organization (see enclosed

attachment) - are we interested? If so, discuss next steps - we can get an invoice from them for processing if approved by Mayor's Office - see benefits and details about membership on <http://usicd.org/index.cfm/join-usicd> (and attached)

- USICD learned of us from our e-newsletter in November (11/20/2013 - [Join Us in Supporting the DisAbility Treaty - Watch Senate Hearing Live Tomorrow](#))
- see us listed among other supporters on <http://usicd.org/template/page.cfm?id=252> and on <http://usicd.org/doc/USICD%20to%20SFRC.pdf>

- Next Meeting: April 8, 2014

addendum

- Last e-newsletter sent on 3/3/2014 - [People First - Some disabilities may be hidden or not easy to see](#) - over 260 people, from nearly 80 organizations opened our last e-newsletter:

Organization

ADA Coalition of CT
AIDS Connecticut (ACT)
Arizona State University School of Social Work
Ashfield Healthcare
Bridgeport Mayor
City of Danbury
City of Danbury - Equal Housing Opportunity Program
City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities
City of Danbury Danbury Recreation Programs
City of Danbury Fire Department
City of Danbury Health and Human Services Department
City of Danbury Human Resources
City of Danbury Police Department
City of Danbury, Mayor's Office
CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF (CAD)
Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA)
Connecticut Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress
Connecticut magazine
CONNECTICUT PARENT ADVOCACY CENTER (CPAC)
Connecticut Post
CONNECTICUT STATE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL (SILC)
CT Commission on Aging
CT Dept. of Labor
CT Mirror
CT State Dept Of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Cuyler News Service
Danbury City Council
Danbury City Council - Council at Large
Danbury Daily Voice
Danbury Hospital
Danbury Police Department
Danbury Professional Firefighters Union Local 801
Dept Of Social Services
DHHS, 11 SHS
Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF)
EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF CONNECTICUT
FAP-Friends of Autistic People
Hartford Courant
Harvard School of Public Health
Health Resources in Action

Human Rights And Opportunities, Commission On
Lifespan/Women's Medicine Collaborative
MA Department of Public Health
MA Dept. of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Mental Health & Addiction Services, Dept Of
Merck & Co., Inc.
MidHudsonNews.Com
National Diabetes Education Program
NBC Connecticut
New England ADA Center
NH Asthma Control Program
Orange County Post
Public Health, Dept Of
Register Star
St Joseph hospital
State of Connecticut Legislative Management
State of Connecticut Office of Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities
State of CT Dept. of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
State of CT Insurance Dept.
The Academy of International Studies, Danbury Public Schools
The Cornwall Local
The Hartford Courant
The Heller School for Social Policy and Management, Brandeis University
The New York Times
The News-Times
The News-Times - Hearst Media
The Putnam County Courier
Time magazine
Times Herald Record
UMass Memorial
University of Rochester
WBNR AM
WCSU
Westchester News
Woman's Day
womans.org - Woman's Hospital



danburyc4pwd <danburyc4pwd@gmail.com>

USICD Membership

1 message

Suzanne Richard <srichard@usidc.org>

Fri, Mar 7, 2014 at 4:15 PM

To: DanburyC4PWD@gmail.com

March 7, 2014

Annie Dance

Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut

Danbury, CT

Dear Annie:

Thank you for supporting United States ratification of the international *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* or the *Disability Treaty*, for short. As a member of the coalition for ratification that is today over 800 organizations strong, Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut is essential to success on this issue. Though the Senate has not yet done its job done on ratification, with your support, I know we will succeed. One Billion people with disabilities around the world look to the United States to affirm that disability rights are human rights, and to join over 140 countries in committing to non-discrimination, opportunity, and accessibility.

I hope you share this vision of a more accessible and equitable world. The Disability Treaty is inspiring a global movement of people with disabilities who are now fighting for a seat in the classroom, a fair shot in the workplace, and a ballot in the voting booth. Americans must stand with them. Not just through our own ratification, but for the world's progress ahead. That is why I am writing to ask Commission For Persons With DisAbilities, City of Danbury, Connecticut to become an Organizational Member of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities today. USICD's strong foundation is based in our members, organizations like yours who have made the Americans with Disabilities Act real here at home and have much to share with the world. We need you behind our mission of *promoting the rights and full participation of persons with disabilities through global engagement and United States foreign affairs.*

In 2013, USICD and our members made great strides in building a more accessible and equitable world for all by leading the campaign for U.S. ratification of the Disability Treaty. With you, this dynamic campaign that includes diverse community voices, media outreach, policy analysis, and a strong presence on Capitol Hill has delivered a message to the Senate on behalf of disability, veterans, business and faith-based groups that U.S. ratification matters and that we will not be deterred.

Also last year, we launched a new initiative aimed at supporting the careers of young professionals with disabilities interested in foreign affairs and international development. We placed seven undergraduate and graduate students in organizations and agencies in D.C. focused on international development to much success and we look forward to our 2014 group's arrival. Additionally, through the Global Disability Rights Library and our role as the official United States member assembly in Disabled Peoples International, we continue to build bridges between the American disability community and the global community. Our annual mining of the U.S. Department of State's

human rights reports for disability citations is available online, and our sites www.usidc.org and www.disabilitytreaty.org continue to capture international news and share our members' good works with the world. We have recently launched a news feed on www.usidc.org to highlight the 2014 Paralympics and foster

greater connectivity between rights advocates and the athlete community and to promote the Games as a vehicle for solidarity among the global disability community.

By becoming a USICD member, you join a community of organizations dedicated to supporting disability advocacy on the world stage. This year we plan offer as a benefit to our members a directory of all member organizations to foster more networking and information sharing. We are developing plans to have a members-only portal on the website to facilitate greater connections. We will also be hosting a members-only event this year which will feature speakers and discussions of disability around the world. And as we have in the past, we will list your organization's link, logo and description on our website to increase your visibility to the thousands of people that visit our website each month.

Thank you for considering membership in USICD. I am available to answer any question. To join, simply fill out the Membership Form below and return it with payment to the address below, or pay online at <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/130084>. If an invoice is required for your internal processing, please contact srichard@usid.org. We look forward to welcoming you into the USICD membership.

Sincerely,



David Morrissey

Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marca Bristo, President, Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Lex Frieden, Vice-President, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

John Lancaster, Past President

David Hutt, Treasurer, National Disability Rights Network

Glen White, Secretary, Research and Training Center on Independent Living, Kansas University

The Honorable Tony Coelho, former Congressman from California

Jill Houghton, US Business Leadership Network

Axel Leblois, G3ict

Barbara LeRoy

Developmental Disabilities Institute, Wayne State University

Susan Mazrui, AT&T

Patricia Morrissey, Employment Diversity Network

David W. Oaks, MindFreedom International

Stephanie Ortoleva, Women Enabled

Jeff Rosen, CSDVRS, LLC

Eric Rosenthal, Disability Rights International

Randy Rutta, Easter Seals, Inc.

Diana Samarasan, Disability Rights Fund

Betsy Valnes, National Youth Leadership Network

Aubrey Webson, Perkins International

Tom Zampieri, Blinded Veterans Association

Government Agency Members (Non-voting)

U.S. Access Board

National Council on Disability

U.S. Department of Transportation

U.S. Department of Education – OSERS

U.S. Department of Homeland Security – FEMA

U.S. Department of Labor – ODEP

For Check Payments, please submit this page along with payment in the enclosed remittance envelope or to:

United States International Council on Disabilities

1012 14th St. NW, Suite 105

Washington, DC 20005

For Credit Card Payments, please send this form by email or fax using the contact details below.

Visit USICD's Donate page for payment information at:

<https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/130084>

Date: _____

Membership Type: Organizational (\$300)

Individual (\$25)

Name of Organization: _____

First Name (Given Name): _____

Last Name (Surname): _____

Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State _____

Zip Code: _____ Country _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Contact Email: _____

Website: _____

Areas of Interest: _____

USICD, 1012 14th Street, NW, Suite 105, Washington, D.C. 20005

Telephone: 202-347-0102 Fax: 202-347-0351 www.usicd.org

For more information, please contact: Suzanne Richard Email: srichard@usicd.org Phone: (202) 347-0102

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Membership in the U.S. International Council on Disabilities is open to a variety of organizations and individuals in the U.S. and its territories. As a USICD member, you will be contributing to the work we are doing to promote equality, inclusion and the human rights of people with disabilities worldwide. We will keep you apprised of opportunities to be directly involved in USICD committees, programs and advocacy initiatives, as well as conferences and events. Join the global disability movement through USICD today!

Download USICD's 2013 Membership form at the right of this page.

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Members

USICD's core membership is made up of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), some of which are national organizations with large memberships and others that are smaller in scope. Their common bond is that they are committed to promoting equality, inclusion, empowerment and the human rights of people with disabilities worldwide. Most of our NGO members are disability-related organizations. However, diversity is one of USICD's core values and we are eager to expand our circle to involve a range of stakeholders from other civil society movements, international development actors, and for-profit entities.

The annual dues for Organization Members are \$300.

Individual Advocates

USICD membership is also open to individuals who share our vision. We know that there are many individuals who are deeply committed to international disability rights but, for a variety of reasons, may not have the opportunity to participate in USICD through an organization. In these cases, we invite advocates to join USICD in their individual capacity.

The annual dues for Individual Members are \$25.

US Government Agencies

United States foreign policy and international development efforts have a vast reach and impact lives in every corner of the world. Ensuring that our US foreign policies, plans and programs are fully reflective of our national values and our national laws on disability is a very difficult task. USICD is committed to linking government stakeholders to the wealth of experience, expertise and technical assistance resources our members have to offer. By joining USICD, these government agencies demonstrate their commitment to ensuring accessibility and inclusion in their global efforts.

SIGN UP NOW!

Please download our 2013 Membership Form below, complete and return to USICD with check payment.

[2013 USICD Membership Form](#)

1012 14th St. NW,
Suite 105
Washington, DC 20005
Fax: [\(202\) 347-0351](tel:(202)347-0351)
Email: srichard@usicd.org

To use a credit card to join online, please use our [Secure Online processing tool \(via Network for Good\)](#). Just write 'Membership' in the dedication line to indicate that payment should be processed as membership.

*Dues for Government Members vary and are negotiated between
USICD and the prospective member.*

[SITE MAP](#) | [ACCESSIBILITY](#) | [CONTACT](#)

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Hello! You are receiving this email because of your interest in learning more about disAbilities and the City of Danbury. You can unsubscribe any time at the bottom of this email.

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Be sure to [forward this message](#) to your family, friends and colleagues and follow the City of Danbury's [Commission for Persons with disAbilities](#) on [Twitter @DanburyC4PWD](#) and like us on [Facebook](#)



Mark D. Boughton, Mayor

**City of Danbury Commission for Persons with
disAbilities
John Gentile, Chairman**

March 3, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact: [Annie Dance](#), Commissioner & Secretary

People First: Communicating with and about people with disAbilities

Danbury, Connecticut - People first language is used to speak appropriately and respectfully about an individual with a disability. "Most Americans will experience a disability some time during the course of their lives. It's important to remember that some disAbilities may be hidden or not easy to see and disAbilities can affect people in different ways, even when one person has the same type of disAbility as another person." said John Gentile, Chairman. People first language emphasizes the person first not the disAbility. [Here are suggestions](#) on how to communicate with and about people with disAbilities.

People with disAbilities constitute our nation's largest minority group, which is simultaneously the most inclusive and the most diverse. Everyone is represented: all genders, all ages, all religions, all socioeconomic levels and all ethnic backgrounds. The disAbility community is the only minority group that anyone can join at any time.

Join us as we prepare to celebrate **National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**. In February we celebrated **AMD/Low Vision Awareness Month** and **American Heart Month**.

Did you know? According to the CDC, about 50 million Americans report having a disability.

Seeking Advisor for People First of Connecticut Danbury Chapter

Commissioner Chad Sinanian is the past President, and Quentin Hughes III is the current President of People First of CT's Danbury Chapter. There are over 30 members of the Chapter. They need help to organize and plan monthly meetings, schedule guest speakers, schedule restaurant outings and plan yearly activities. Past meetings have been held at Ability Beyond Disability. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming the advisor please contact [Chad](#).

Resources and Links

- [City of Danbury Health & Human Services Department](#)
 - [PSAs Challenge Assumptions about People with Disabilities](#)
 - **Would you like your organization to be listed here?** [Email us](#) for consideration.
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About the City of Danbury Commission for Persons with disAbilities

Commission for Persons with disAbilities members: **John Gentile**, Chairman, **Annie Dance**, Secretary, **Rose Marie Bouclier**, **Paul Kachevsky**, **Joanne LaPorta**, **Bill Lewis**, **John Neumuller**, **Bobby Perez**, **Frank Reed**, **Frances Ryan**, and **Chad Sinanian**.

We work to put the "A" in ability - the Commission has many goals including focusing on the Abilities of those with disAbilities. The Commission was established to advise the Mayor and the Common Council of the needs of persons with disAbilities within the community with relation to housing, economics, employment, transportation, health, recreation and other matters. Meetings are held at City Hall, on the 3rd floor, at 6:30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. There are no meetings held in July and August.

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Use the forward to a friend button below to share this email and suggest friends sign up for our newsletter - [click here](#).

City of Danbury Code of Ordinances

Sec. 2-56.13. Commission for persons with disabilities--Created, purpose.

(a) There is hereby created and established a commission to be known as the Danbury Commission for Persons with Disabilities. The commission shall at its primary purpose advise the mayor and the common council of the needs of people with disabilities within the community with relation to housing, employment, transportation, economics, health, recreation and other relevant matters. The commission shall, in addition, recommend to the mayor and the common council ways in which programs and services offered by the City of Danbury may be made more accessible to people with disabilities and in which obstacles hindering employment and enjoyment of programs and services may be eliminated.

(b) The commission shall also serve as a compliance committee for the purposes of hearing grievances and complaints brought by persons pursuant to the Americans With Disabilities Act. The committee shall hold hearings and render decisions regarding participation in and access to public facilities, services, activities and functions by persons with disabilities in accordance with such procedures and regulations as may be established pursuant to the Americans With Disabilities Act.

(Ord. No. 291, 12-7-82; Ord. No. 387, 4-3-90; Ord. No. 518, 10-1-96) Cross references: Commission on equal rights and opportunities, § 2-54; handicapped parking, § 19-35.

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John Gentile, Chairman

Commission for Persons with disAbilities

City of Danbury, City Hall, 155 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

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